Training Academy 2026		Schedule Period						Class Catalog by LEVEL
Classroom	**Class Title**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**Instructor**	**Class Description**
	Den Chief Training	1s	2s	3s			Scott Mcconnell	This course is designed to prepare Scouts BSA youth to serve as Den Chiefs with a Cub Scout Pack. Participants will learn leadership skills, games, songs, and techniques to support Den Leaders while serving as positive role models for younger Scouts. The training emphasizes responsibility, communication, and the importance of mentoring Cub Scouts as they progress in their Scouting journey. Upon completion, Scouts will be ready to contribute meaningfully to their pack.
	CITC				4s	5s		
	Order of the Arrow	1s	2s	3s	4s	5s	Jen Cain	Have you already taken ILST/ILSC and NYLT and are looking for a new type of leadership training, or are you looking at getting involved in an OA leadership position? Look no further! This year Lowaneu Allanque is making our LLD more accessible than ever, providing a quality leadership experience that you can't get from just any other training. Learn how our lodge is structured, how to get involved, and how to lead your unit to greatness with a syllabus specially designed for our area by the national organization of the Order of the Arrow. This class has content for both youth and adults. Youth MUST register on the Training Academy Youth Class Site. PREREQUISITE: Class is open to CURRENT OA Members only.
	SPL Training	1s	2s	3s	4s	5s	Jen Cresse & Gregory Contos	This leadership course is designed for Scouts BSA youth First Class or above who currently serve, or aspire to serve, as Senior Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Participants will strengthen their leadership, communication, and organizational skills while learning how to run effective meetings, guide the Patrol Leaders' Council, and build teamwork within their troop. The course provides practical tools and confidence to lead peers successfully and support the Scoutmaster in delivering a quality program.
	Hot Dutch Oven Cooling		2s	3s			Zac Gustafson	Come hungry - for knowledge of Dutch oven cooking AND for samples! This class will provide a brief history of Dutch ovens before we look at how to use them for cooking. We'll explore different options for outdoor Dutch oven cooking and discuss how a full meal may be made in Dutch ovens. This class provides demonstrations of several different dishes that are camping friendly, including a vegetarian dish. Take these recipes back to your troop and try them out. This is an outside class - dress for the weather.
	Foil Packet Cooking				4s	5s		Learn the basics of foil packet cooking and discover how to create delicious, easy-to-prepare meals over a campfire. Participants will learn simple techniques for selecting ingredients, assembling and sealing foil packets, and cooking them safely to perfection.
	Food Allergies and/or Restrictions: Now What?	1					Devon Kosan	Meal planning and cross-contamination, resources, long-term camps and Treks. This will be an open discussion
	Knots-Basic		2				Harry Stout	This is a basic knot class to teach leaders how to teach their youth. The basic knots covered include, but are not limited to: square knot, sheet bend, bow line, basic whipping techniques, figure eight knot, and possibly a few others.
	Knots-Intermediate			3			Harry Stout	This intermediate class teaches some of the more elegant knots a Scout will need to learn. This is for teaching leaders how to teach youth. Knots covered in this class are: the clove hitch, basic lashings, splicing, and a few others as time permits.
	How to Run an Effective Committee/Meeting	1					Harry Stout	Learn the secrets of running successful meetings. This class is great for Committee Chairs, Committee Members, and anyone in your unit who needs to work with a committee.
	Fun With Fire			3			Rick Franzen	Ignite your program by attending this OUTSIDE class. (Dress according to the weather.) Learn about various aspects of fire safety, fire science, fire lays, fire starting methods, fire extinguishing, etc. There will also be demonstrations on some of the various ways one can start a fire (only a couple involve the use of matches.)
	Paracord 101 - Max 15				4	5	Kathleen Kelly	New to paracord? No problem! This workshop will teach you that learning a few simple knots will unlock countless paracord craft possibilities! We'll use the EDGE method to equip scouting leaders with accessible and inclusive paracord projects that are easily adjustable to meet the needs and abilities of all scouts, whether you're looking for patrol activities or Cubs recruiting. In addition to hands-on practice, we will also discuss the benefits of utilizing paracord activities for sensory regulation within a pack or troop setting.
	Hands on -Basic Woodcarving for Scouts - 15 MAX	1					Peter Dix	Make a simple bird for use as an ornament or decoration, using "carving in the round" techniques.
	Hands on - Cub Scout Things That Fly for Packs and Dens		2				Peter Dix	Build quick Foam Plate Gliders and stomp rockets for cub scouts, and durable card stock gliders for Webelos.
	Hands On - 2L water rockets and things that fly for Cubs and Webelos - 20 Max			3			Peter Dix	Learn about 2L water rockets, stomp rockets, micro kites, FPG-9 gliders and more, great for dens and packs. Raffle for launchers to take home and use. Note: a portion of this class will be held outside. Dress appropriate for the weather.
	Hands on -Simple Cub Scout Projects - 15 MAX					5	Peter Dix	Learn to work with cub scouts on simple, fun projects they can use at home or give as gifts, completing several in class.
	Hands on - Building and Racing Recycled Raingutter Regatta Boats				4		Peter Dix	Learn how to hold a raingutter regatta from recycled materials or kits, and hold a pack-wide race.
	Hands On - Basic Leatherworking	1					Linda Zavala	Learn the basics of beginning leatherwork. Participants will learn about choosing the correct leather and tools for their projects, how to prepare for transferring a pattern or picture, and the processes of creating impressions in the leather by stamping or carving and tooling. After creating impressions, participants will color or dye their leather pieces as well as put on a final finish and leave with a fully completed piece.
	Hands On - Advanced Leatherworking - Saddle Stitch		2				Linda Zavala	Participants will learn to saddle stitch and practice using the stitch to create a small project. Saddle stitching is not just for use in making saddles; it is a sturdy lock stitch for sewing leather.
	Hands On - Leather Passport Holder or Can Koozie			3			Linda Zavala	Create your own passport holder using tooling and stitching skills. This class is for anyone, whether you have or have not had experience working with leather. Interested beginners, intermediate or advanced, all are welcome.
	Intentional Inclusivity In Programming: Treat Your Scouts To A Cultural Explosion	1						Looking for new programming ideas? This class will provide resources to help plan a year of activities that exposes Scouts to different cultures. This class will take a deep dive into various cultural celebrations, providing: key dates, events, activities, games, food and more.
	Flag Etiquette and Ceremonies		2				Steve Sarver	Flag ceremonies! They are at every level, from Cub Scouts on up. Learn the proper way to raise and lower the flag, how to do the "flag calls," etc. Gain insight into how to do a meaningful flag ceremony at every age level along with tips for how to involve the youth. Learn about the proper way to display, fly, fold, and respect the Flag, and why we do so. We will also cover common misconceptions as well as some ideas on flag retirement ceremonies.
	Campfire Planning		2				Bob Drawz, Dale Squier, Steve Hochstetler	If you are in Scouting, chances are that a campfire is in your future. But what makes a campfire successful? What are the elements of a good campfire? No matter what part of Scouting you are involved in, this course will explore some techniques to make your campfire sizzle.
	Partnering with your faith-based Charter Partner.					5	Marti Jernberg	What is the relationship like between your unit and your faith-based Charter organization? Is your troop "those kids that come in and use our space but we don't know them"? or is your troop "our Scouts who help us achieve our mission"? Learn what you can do to help your Charter Organization begin to see you as their partner and a welcome part of their youth program.
	Helping Your Scouts Earn Their Religious Emblems	1					Marti Jernberg	Duty to God is an important part of Scouting. Find out how you can use the religious emblems materials as part of your unit activities. Additional class suggestion: Religious Chaplain / Chaplain Aide Training.
	The Secret of the Council Budget					5	Ron Wentzell & Matthew Rasche	Ever wonder where the money goes-and how it helps Scouting thrive? Join Scout Executive/CEO Ron Wentzell and Treasurer Matthew Rasche for a behind-the-scenes look at the Council budget. Discover how financial decisions are made, how resources are prioritized, and how every dollar helps deliver Scouting's mission.
	Scoutbook Plus		2		4		Brian Kosan	Scoutbook Plus serves as the official platform for tracking advancement and activities across all Scouting America programs. This course will cover both basic and advanced functions, including individual or bulk advancement entry, managing sub-units (dens and patrols), accessing adventure/merit badge resources, merit badge counselor assignment and completion, calendars, unit communications, payments, and more. This course is ideal for new leaders in any program as well as unit advancement chairs. Experienced leaders will also benefit, as the session aims to address common misconceptions about the platform's usability. Attendees are encouraged to bring their computers for hands-on experience!
	Celebrate Camp Big Timber: 100 Years of History		2				Andrea Welch	Step back in time and discover the stories, traditions, people, and unforgettable moments that shaped Camp Big Timber. Explore a century of Scouting adventure while celebrating the legacy that continues to inspire generations of Scouts and Scouters—and imagine what the next 100 years might bring!

	"I Was a Scout Once..." Returning to Scouting as an Adult				4		Denise Norris	Many parents were Scouts themselves. However, today's Scouting program has evolved significantly. This course helps former Scouts understand what has changed, what remains the same, and how to use their experience to positively support today's youth.
	SCOUTING 101: A Parent's Guide to the Scouting Program & Keeping Youth Safe	1					Denise Norris	New to Scouting? This course helps parents understand how Scouting works, why it works, and how the BSA's Youth Protection policies create a safe environment for all youth. Learn program structure, advancement, leadership opportunities, outdoor activities, and the important role parents play in supporting their Scout's journey.
	SCOUTING AND FAMILY LIFE: Making Scouting Work for the Entire Family		2				Denise Norris	Scouting can be one of the most rewarding family experiences, but balancing schedules, activities, siblings, and family commitments can be challenging. Learn practical strategies to support your Scout while maintaining healthy family balance.
	UNDERSTANDING SCOUT ADVANCEMENT: What Parents Need to Know			3			Denise Norris	Advancement is one of Scouting's methods, not its purpose. Learn how advancement works from Cub Scouts through Eagle Scout and discover the best ways parents can encourage growth while allowing Scouts to take ownership of their achievements.
	YOUR SCOUTING TRAINING ROADMAP: BALOO, IOLS, Wood Badge, and Beyond					5	Denise Norris	There is more to Scouting training than Youth Protection. Learn what training is available, why it matters, and how BALOO, IOLS, Wood Badge, OKPIK, Powder Horn, University of Scouting, and other programs can help parents and leaders deliver a better experience for youth.
	Introduction to MESH (Mental Emotional and Social Health (Training)	1					Wendy Cortez	Mental, Emotional, and Social Health (MESH) training is a proactive initiative by Scouting America designed to equip staff and adult leaders with the
	Leader's Guide: Parent Engagement in MESH			3			Wendy Cortez	A Scout's success on the trail starts long before packing a backpack. This practical workshop equips adult leaders with the tools to build strong, collaborative relationships with families around Mental, Emotional, and Social Health (MESH). Learn how to demystify MESH terminology, normalize emotional safety alongside physical first aid, and frame sensitive conversations around shared goals. You will leave with actionable communication strategies, pre-event intake tools, and protocols for handling challenging situations in partnership with parents—ensuring every Scout feels supported, safe, and ready for adventure.
	Understanding Bullying and Bullying Prevention		2				Wendy Cortez	Physical safety and emotional safety go hand in hand. Learn how to spot early signs of bullying, intervene effectively, and build an inclusive troop culture where every Scout feels valued. Leaders will leave with practical communication tools and clear protocols to support youth and engage parents constructively.
	Understanding and Supporting Neurodiversity				4		Wendy Cortez	While Autism is not a mental health condition, studies show that at least 70% of individuals on the spectrum experience a comorbid mental health condition. This can include anxiety, depression, and suicidality among others. Because of communicative and sensory differences that these individuals experience, they may not receive supports in traditional ways. This discussion will help individuals understand how to establish an individual's baseline, notice any differences in behavior, and how to support them in a variety of ways to best meet their needs.
	Scouting With Youth With Special Needs					5	Keith Santini	Hear from several youth in our Council who have had an amazing experience Scouting despite having unique abilities. Scouts will give an overview of what they love about the program and things that helped them succeed...or were specifically not helpful.
	Why Families Stay: Keys to Scout Retention				4			Recruiting new Scouts is only half the battle — this session focuses on keeping the families you already have engaged, active, and committed long-term. Leaders will explore why Scouts and families leave, how to spot early warning signs, and practical strategies for creating a welcoming, fun, and rewarding unit culture. Topics include mentorship, program quality, and communication practices that build lasting family buy-in. Attendees will leave with actionable retention tactics they can implement in their unit right away. Though the class will focus on Cub Scouts, many of the tools can work for older youth programs.
	How to Recruit Leaders					5		Explore ways to involve parents and guardians in unit activities, ensuring their commitment and participation. Learn how to recruit and motivate adult leaders and volunteers to support your unit's growth and sustainability.
	Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training	1s	2s	3s				Get ready to dive into the fun and adventure of Cub Scouting while gaining the tools you need to be a confident leader! This course introduces the aims and methods of Cub Scouting, pack structure, child development, uniforms, and advancement. It also provides practical guidance for Den Leaders, Cubmasters, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members. Attend all sessions to complete the course and earn your training card. Participants must attend all sessions to complete the course and will receive a training card upon completion. To be fully trained, leaders must also complete Safeguarding Youth Training (required for all leaders) and Hazardous Weather Training (required for den leaders, assistant den leaders, and Cubmasters/assistant Cubmasters). Both of these additional courses are available online.
	Getting Started as a Den Leader		2				Ed Hollendoner	What does a Cubmaster really do? Join this class for ideas for delivering a fun and exciting program for your Pack throughout the year and tips for being an effective leader.
	Pack Program Planning			3			Ed Hollendoner	Does your Pack's program need a burst of energy? Don't risk losing Scouts with a boring lineup—let's show you how to keep your program packed with excitement, creativity, and FUN that keeps families coming back for more!
	Unlocking the Fun of Day Camp	1					Maryann Grizwold	This course is designed to inspire Cub Scout leaders to encourage families to participate in the exciting day camp programs at Von Oven, Cantigny, Good Templar, and Camp Big Timber. Leaders will explore the many benefits of day camp, including hands-on activities, outdoor adventures, skill development, and opportunities for Scouts to build friendships and confidence. By learning how to promote and support attendance, leaders will help their Scouts create lasting memories while strengthening their pack's program.
	Crafting on a Budget					5	Maryann Grizwold, Val Goldstein	Learn how to creatively use inexpensive and freecycled materials to enrich hands-on learning in your program. Participants will discover practical ways to repurpose everyday items into engaging projects, crafts, and activities that spark curiosity and problem-solving. By emphasizing resourcefulness and sustainability, leaders will gain strategies to stretch budgets while delivering meaningful, interactive experiences.
	Den Chiefs and How They Can Help					5	Andrea Welch	Den Chiefs can be the best thing that ever happened to you as a Den Leader. They can enhance your program, create a connection to the Scouts BSA program -- and you might find your job is MUCH EASIER than you thought it would be! Join us to learn how to best utilize your Den Chief and how his/her role in your den will help his/her advancement in Scouts BSA.
	Top Tips for Cub Leaders	1					Steve Sarver	Congratulations! You've been asked to be a Cub Scout leader! Now what? Let's talk about how to get the requirements done, how to involve the Scouts, basic calendar management, and more. Get dozens of great ideas in this session!
	Pinewood Derby - Pitfalls and Possibilities			3			Steve Sarver	It's Pinewood Derby time! After weeks of preparation and anticipation, it's time for your Cub Scouts to race their cars! This session will tell you how to avoid potential "Pinewood Pitfalls," prepare for your pack's Derby, identify and train your helpers, have smoother check-ins, as well as some ideas on recognizing each Scout and filling them up with FUN!
	Trophy-Making 101					5	Steve Sarver	Come and learn how trophies are made! Learn about tips and tricks that you can use for your Pinewood Derby or other function where trophies are awarded. Each participant will put together their own trophy to take home. No cost to attend!
	Cub Scout Recruitment		2					Build a steady pipeline of new Cub Scouts by learning proven, low-cost recruitment strategies that work year-round, not just at back-to-school events. This session covers how to plan and run effective school nights, leverage word-of-mouth and social media, and partner with schools and community organizations to reach more families. We'll also discuss our new AI-enabled recruiting tool: MoVo (aka Sam). This class is perfect for pack leaders looking to grow membership and strengthen their unit's presence in the community.
	BSA Safety Moments	1					Jay Herzog	In this class, taught by the council's Risk Management Committee, we'll discuss accidents and injuries that have occurred both nationally and at Three Fires Council and how they could have been prevented.
	Women on the Trail					5	Beth Pociask	A welcoming introduction to backpacking designed for all women who are new to the trail, and leaders of female units. Learn what to pack, how to plan, and the basics of staying safe and comfortable outdoors.
	Cooking is More Than Just About Food	1					Bob Drawz, Dale Squier, Steve Hochstetler	One thing Scouts like to do on campouts is eat. Cooking requires organization and planning. This class will explore the ways we can combine these two ideas to teach and develop leadership skills.
	Prepare Your Parents for Your Troop			3			Bob Drawz, Dale Squier, Steve Hochstetler	New parents are joining your troop. They haven't been through Scout leader training yet, so they don't know how and why we do things in a troop. This class will explore the ways you can support your troop by getting your parents on board with the Scouting way
	How to Retain "Trained" Leaders				4		Bob Drawz, Dale Squier, Steve Hochstetler	Your leaders have been trained...a long time ago. You hear "That's the way we've always done it" a lot. While the fundamental values of Scouting haven't changed, the ways we deliver the promise may have been updated and improved. This class will explore the ways to retrain leaders to consider, accept, and use today's methods.

	Guessing Game - How to Teach Estimating					5	Bob Drawz, Dale Squier, Steve Hochstetler	We don't live in a black and white world. Many times we need to make guesses to get things done...so do Scouts. Whether it's cooking, hiking, or leading a troop, estimating is an important part of Scouting. This class will offer some suggestions on how to teach estimating.
	Merit Badge Counselor Orientation Training			3	4		Dave Rypka, Julie Rypka	This is the classroom version of the official training (D76) required by the Three Fires Council Advancement Committee to become a merit badge counselor.
	Leave No Trace Basics	1s	2s	3s			Steve Wesseln	This course is a general introduction to Leave No Trace ethics and skills. The course is designed to help adults at all program levels understand the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and how to apply them in Scouting America's outdoor program. It is also designed to give adult volunteers the confidence to assess youth understanding and skills for purposes of signing off on Scouting America rank requirements and Venturing Outdoor Bronze and Ranger Award requirements.
	Trail to Eagle		2				Bob Charles	Learn what you need to know to guide your Scouts on the final leg of their Trail To Eagle. We will cover the Eagle process, Eagle Advisor (Eagle Coach), responsibilities, and tools. Recommended related class: The Eagle Project.
	The Eagle Project			3			Bob Charles	Learn what you need to know for a successful Eagle project. We will cover how to find and develop a project, helpful hints, responsibilities, and additional important things to know. Recommended related class: Trail To Eagle.
	Effective Eagle Scout Courts of Honor				4		Steve Sarver	An Eagle Scout Court of Honor is a ceremony used to honor young men and women who have earned the highest rank in Scouting. This session will give you ideas on how to make this ceremony an effective and meaningful experience for them. Topics include ceremony options, props, how to involve the Eagle Scout and his/her family, etc. Bring ideas to share!
	Religious Chaplain/Chaplain Aid Training		2				Marti Jernberg	Duty to God is an important part of the Scouting program. Two positions at the unit and district level can help ensure that Duty to God is incorporated into your unit's program. This session will help you understand these positions and how to make the most of them. Additional class suggestion: Helping Your Scouts Earn Their Religious Emblems.
	Scouts BSA Recruitment and AOL to Scouts BSA Bridging			3				Learn how to keep Arrow of Light Scouts engaged and excited as they transition into Scouts BSA, turning a critical dropout point into a smooth, celebratory bridge. This class walks leaders through building relationships with local packs, hosting joint activities, and running a meaningful crossover ceremony that welcomes new Scouts and their families. It also covers strategies for recruiting older youth who didn't come up through Cub Scouts. Leaders will walk away with a bridging timeline and practical tools to boost their troop's crossover retention rate.